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FOREIGN AND INSULAR.

SANITARY SURVEILLANCE OF VESSELS AT CENTRAL AMERICAN AND WEST INDIAN PORTS.

The Department of State has been requested to inform the American consular officers at Bridgetown, Barbados; Castries, St. Lucia; Port of Spain, Trinidad; St. Thomas; and Curacao that the quarantine officers at United States ports will accept as contributory evidence as to the sanitary status of vessels arriving from the above-named ports certificates of fumigation performed by physicians recommended by the American consular officers, when the said fumigation certificates are viséed by the latter officials. The quarantine officers at the various ports on the mainland of the United States have been notified accordingly.

Acting Asst. Surg. R. P. Ames has been detailed to keep under constant surveillance, for the purpose of determining their sanitary status, the ports of Tela, Ceiba, and Puerto Cortes in Honduras, and Puerto Barrios in Guatemala, during the current close quarantine season.

AUSTRALIA.

Sydney—Examination of Rats.

The following information was taken from bulletins issued by the department of health of New South Wales: During the three weeks ended February 24, 915 rats were examined for plague infection. No plague-infected rat was found.

The last case of human plague was reported May 29, 1909.

The last plague-infected rat was found April 25, 1910.

CHILE.

Yellow Fever at Tocopilla.

The American consul at Valparaiso reported April 3 the occurrence of 38 cases of yellow fever with 12 deaths at Tocopilla.

Tocopilla is a small maritime town situated in the Province of Antofagasta.

CHINA.

Hongkong—Smallpox—Plague—Plague-infected Rats.

Surg. Brown reports: During the two weeks ended February 24, 10 cases of plague, with 9 deaths, and 123 cases of smallpox, with 98 deaths, were reported in Hongkong.

During the same period 3,811 rats were examined for plague infection. Three plague-infected rats were found.